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Bill Wellman
East Lansing

Geneva Kebler Wiskemann
Lansing



Friends of Michigan History, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Michigan Historical Museum

Lansing, Michigan

August 10, 2009

Call to Order

President Bus Spaniola called the of the Board of Directors (Board) meeting of the Friends of Michigan History, Inc. (Friends) to order at 10:02 A.M.

Board Members Present: Larry Griffin, Keith Harrison, John Irwin, Richard Johnson, Charles Seeley, Ralph Sims, Bus Spaniola, Morris Thomas, Tom Truscott, Bill Wellman, and Geneva Wiskemann.

Board Members Absent: Adriana Greci Green, Rose Moye, Louise Stilwill, and Paul Tarr.

Board Members Excused: Adriana Greci Green, Rose Moye, Louise Stilwill, and Paul Tarr.

Michigan Historical Museum (Museum) Staff Present: Martha Bloomfield, Phil Kwiatkowski, and Sandra Clark.

Guests: James A. McConnell- Michigan History Commission, Ronald Andersen Board of Director Candidate

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda as presented; motion passed.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve as transmitted the minutes from the July Board meeting; motion passed.

President's Report

President Spaniola discussed the current Michigan History Foundation (Foundation) proposal to deal with the anticipated execution of the Governor's Executive Order to eliminate the Michigan Department of History, Arts, and Libraries (HAL) and how that proposal would most likely negatively affect the Friends. However, it remains to be seen if either the Foundation or the Friends will be around after the demise of the HAL. It is known that there are a series of bills in the Senate that would shift the majority of the HAL's functions to the Department of State, but even it is passes in the Senate, it will most likely not see the light of day in the Democratic controlled House. Given all this uncertainty, it was decided to just sit and wait and see what develops.

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Treasurer Report July 1 – 31, 2009

Balance	07-01-09	\$6,603.29
Deposits		<u>774.95</u>
Total		\$7,378.24
Cashed Checks		
1455 Keith Harrison		<u>300.00</u>
Balance	07-31-09	\$7,078.24
Benevolent Fund	50.00	

Year-end Financial Report July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

Balance Checking Account July 1, 2008		\$ 11,747.26
Income from Dues and contributions		<u>13,091.05</u>
Available Funds		\$ 24,838.31
Expenditures		
Donations	575.00	
Fayette	389.40	
Walker Tavern	628.20	
Administration	160.00	
Museum Programs	11,443.11	
FOMH Programs	3,846.31	
Awards	493.00	
Preservation	700.00	
Total	18,235.02	<u>- 18,235.02</u>
Balance Checking Account June 30, 2009		\$ 6,603.29
Benevolent Fund	50.00	

A motion was made and seconded to approve, as transmitted, the Treasurer's reports or the period July 1 – July 31, 2009 and the Financial Report for the year ending June 30, 2009; motion passed.

Presentation of Bills

No other bills were presented that were not otherwise previously approved.

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Museum Report

Phil Kwiatkowski and Sandra Clark indicated that everything is slowly in the process of being set up to transition to the Department of Natural Resources per the Governor's Executive Order.

Committee Reports

A. *2009 Veterans Day Program Committee. (Paul Tarr and Larry Griffin – Co chairs):* No report.

B. *Membership Committee (Keith Harrison – Chair).* Charles Seeley provided an overview of the Michigan State Ag Expo program and the activities at the Friends' Display. Keith Harrison indicated that the Jackson Cascades Civil War Muster would be taking place on August 29 and 30 and that he would be sending out via email a signup sheet to help staff the Friends' display table at the event. Bill Wellman talked about the new Wayne State University Press program to help current members and to entice new members to the Friends. Friends' members and new members would get a 25 percent discount on Wayne State University Press books. Several details need to be worked out yet on this program in terms of how best to get this information out to the Friends' membership.

C. *Board Nominating Committee (Charles Seeley and Tom Truscott).* Charles Seeley introduced Roland C. "Andy" Andersen. Mr. Andersen is a past president of the Docents and on the Board of the Williamston Museum.

A motion was made and seconded to elect Roland C. "Andy" Andersen to the Friends' Board of Directors; motion passed.

D. *Magazine/Military Committee (Paul Tarr – Chair).* No report.

E. *Grants Committee (Adriana Greci Green - Chair).* No report.

F. *Newsletter Committee (Paul Tarr and Bill Wellman, Co-chairs).* Dead line for submittal of material for the next Friends' newsletter is September 11, 2009. Email your submittals to Paul Tarr.

G. *Fund Raising Committee (Bus Spaniola - Chair).* President Spaniola encouraged Board members and members to see if they could go on the upcoming Tour of Charlevoix Area's Historical Sites. The trip will be Wednesday, September 30, 2009. The Friends will garner 10 percent of the cost of each ticket sold for the trip.

H. *Calendar (2011) Committee (Tom Truscott & Rose Moyer, Co-chairs).* No report.

I. *Bylaws (Paul Tarr – Chair).* No report.

Old Business

A. *License Plates.* President Spaniola indicated that the bill is still making its way through the Legislature.

B. *IRS Group Exemption Application Status.* There has been no notification regarding the Friends' letter application to the Internal Revenue Service for a Group Exemption Number.

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New Business

Tom Truscott passed a brochure on the West Michigan Pike.

Morris Thomas passed out a flyer about his new book entitled, *Michigan Geography and Geology*.

Geneva Wiskemann passed out a flier advertizing the Michigan Oral History Association annual conference, which will be held September 25 - 26, 2009.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30.

Respectively submitted,

Keith G. Harrison

Keith G. Harrison, Secretary
Board of Directors
Friends of Michigan History, Inc.

The next Board meeting will be Monday, September 14, 2009, in Lansing.